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(16)

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST
INFORMATION SERVICE

Trends in Communist Media

~~Confidential~~

17 SEPTEMBER 1975
(VOL. XXVI, NO. 37)

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

DATE: JUN 15 1980

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NOTES

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF CHILEAN COUP: Soviet media gave pro forma attention to the second anniversary of the 11 September 1973 coup in Chile which toppled Marxist president Salvadore Allende, in marked contrast to the treatment of the first anniversary. Last year, up to 12 percent of Moscow radio comment was devoted to Chile from 9 to 22 September--a period which coincided with President Ford's press conference statements on U.S. involvement in Chile prior to the coup. This year only 3 percent of Moscow's comment for 8-14 September dealt with Chile. This year's comment, beamed primarily to Latin America, featured letters, statements and other expressions of support for the Chileans from a variety of sources in connection with a "week of international solidarity" with the Chilean people. TASS reported on "big meetings of solidarity" said to have been held in "various" Soviet cities and PRAVDA marked the occasion with an article on the 12th by Vladimir Chernyshev summing up the solidarity week. As reported by TASS, Chernyshev noted that the Soviet people condemned the "arbitrary rule of Pinochet's military-fascist regime" and expressed sympathy for the people of Chile. Asserting that Chile's military leaders "understand that their power is preserved only by bayonets," Chernyshev predicted that "they will not avoid stern justice" forever, because the Chilean people continue to struggle for freedom, supported by the socialist countries' "mighty international movement" of solidarity. In a statement reported by TASS on 11 September, the "Soviet committee for solidarity with Chilean democrats" also noted that the Soviet people "rendered, render and will render all kinds of support to the Chilean patriots' struggle." Although Cuban media, like the Soviet, have given only limited attention to the coup anniversary, the Havana domestic radio on 12 September did report a mass meeting--presided over by several Cuban CP Central Committee members--at which it was stressed that Cubans "will never fail in their internationalist duty" to the people of Chile, who will someday triumph over the junta's "terror, repression, jails and killings."

PEKING ON ANGOLA: At a 13 September banquet for a visiting Zambian goodwill delegation, PRC Vice Premier Li Hsien-nien gave explicit and equal support for the three competing liberation movements in Angola, though not mentioning any of the groups by name. The NCNA account of Li's remarks carried his claim that China has always provided the three groups with "even-handed, friendly treatment and rendered support and assistance." In the past Peking has limited itself to routine expressions of support for "the just struggle of the Angolan people," with no indication of assistance. Peking has given equivalent friendly receptions to separate delegations from